



# Emerging Security Challenges in Highly Interconnected Semiconductor Systems

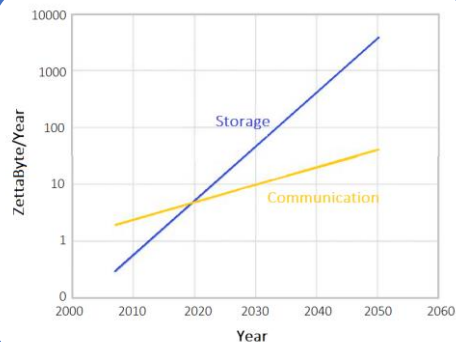
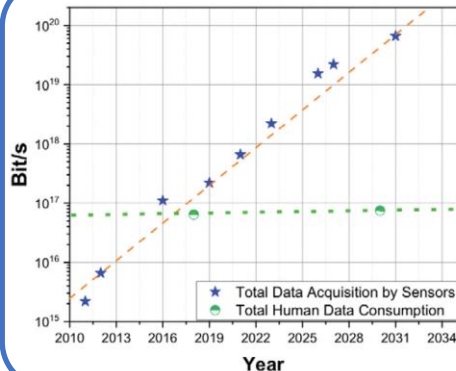
Neeraj Paliwal

April 27, 2023



# Why Does Security Matter Even More Today?

(Source: SRC, Decadal Plan For Semiconductors)



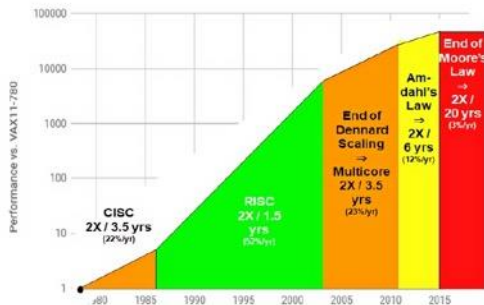
Increased complexity and fragility of the supply chain driven by emerging suppliers and technologies such as 3D chips and systems, (multi-) chiplet integration, stacking etc.,

Exponential increase of data acquisition rate per sensor.  
Total data acquisition has been estimated to reach  $10^{27}$  bytes-per-year by 2032 ( $>10^{20}$  bit/s)

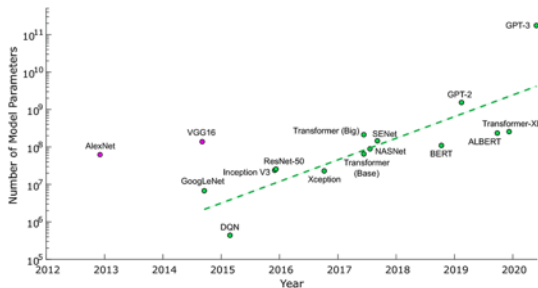
Paradigm shift from "move data to compute" to "move compute to data" driven by the alarming growing gap between the world's technological informational storage need and the communication capacity

# Why Does Security Matter Even More Today?

40 years of Processor Performance



Moore's law is slowing



AI demands are growing

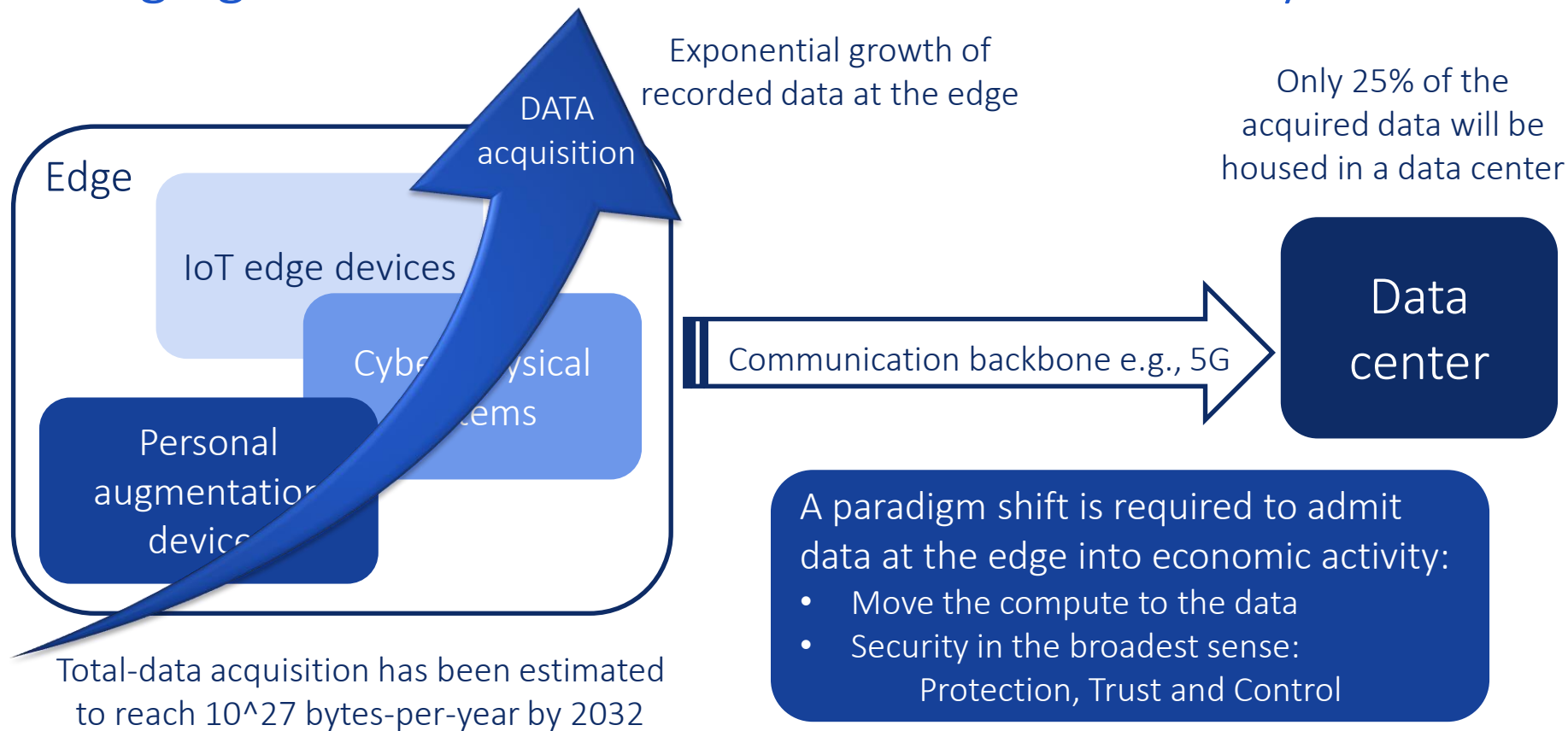
General purpose CPUs and GPUs can't meet the performance demands of today's AI workloads

AI workload optimized "heterogeneous compute" architecture is driving the demand for new chips

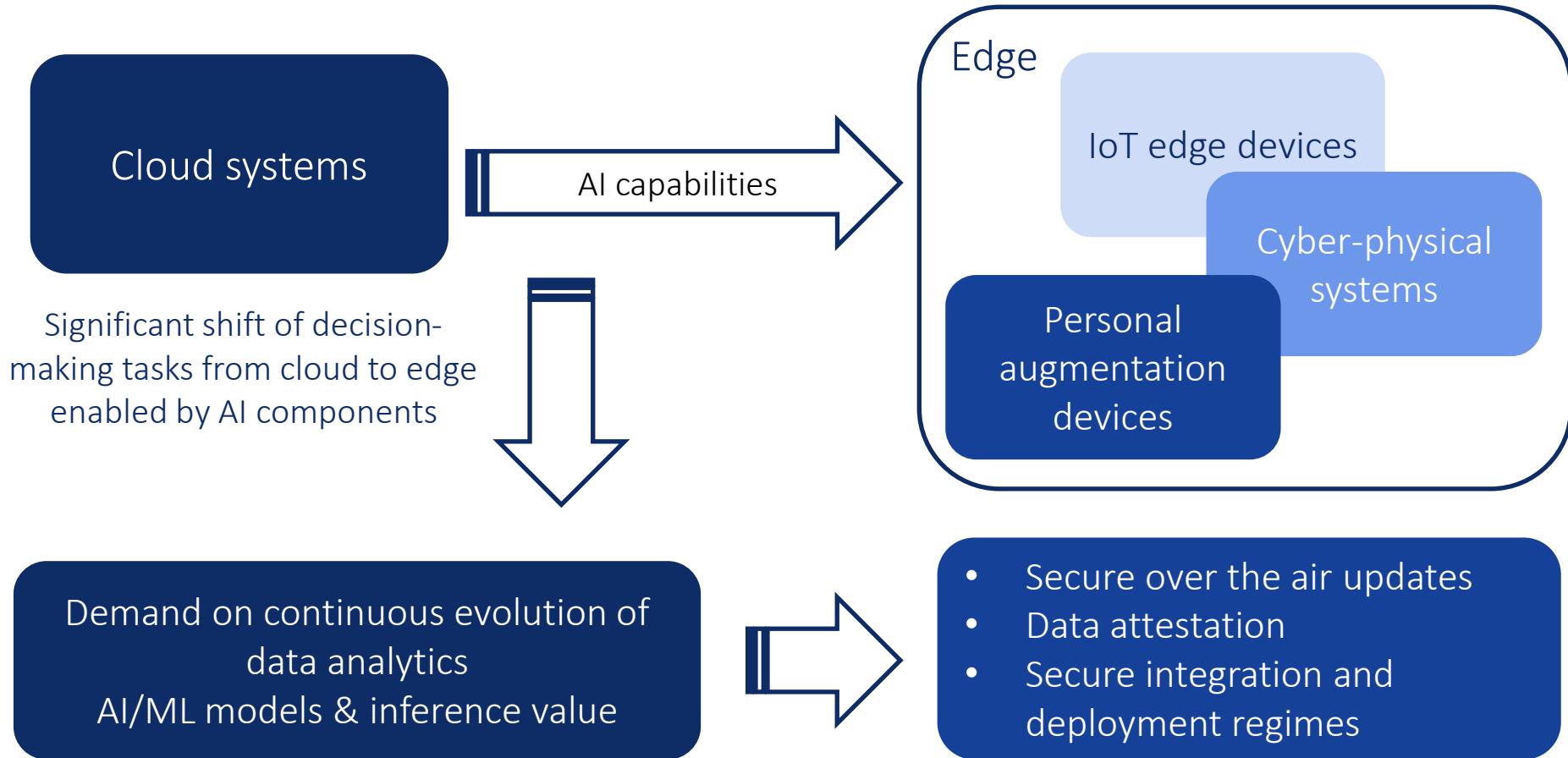
These new chips are developed by emerging system design companies instead of the traditional ones

Many designs focus on AI performance and may find their chips vulnerable without a reliable IP supplier

# Emerging Trends: From Data Centers to DATA Everywhere



# AI Capabilities: From Cloud to Edge



# Security at the Edge: Challenges

- Edge devices are in the field
  - Easier to access for adversaries
  - Non-expert users
    - Devices are supposed to help / entertain, not create work
  - Wide-ranging environment interactions
    - Example: Troop locations revealed by fitness trackers
- Governments have taken notice: Regulation
  - Privacy (e.g., GDPR)
  - Health (e.g., HIPAA Security Rule)
  - Automotive Cyber Security (e.g., UNR 155 & 156)
  - US National Cyber Security Strategy
  - EU Cyber Security Act & EU Cyber Resilience Act
  - Government purchasing requirements (e.g., FISMA, EO14028)

HEALTHCARE & PHARMA MARCH 22, 2019 / 1:10 AM / UPDATED 4 YEARS AGO

## FDA says cybersecurity vulnerabilities found in some [REDACTED] devices

By Reuters Staff

1 MIN READ

## Car thieves are hacking key fobs to quickly and quietly steal vehicles

by Bettie Cross | Thu, May 12th 2022, 11:49 PM GMT+2



This picture is from a keyless car theft in England. One crook goes to the front door where a lot of people store their key fobs. The signal from the key fob is amplified and relayed to a second device that's being held close to the car door. The car is tricked into thinking the key fob is next to the door. That allows the car to be opened, started and driven away. (Photos: West Midlands Police)

ars TECHNICA

## Gone in 130 seconds: New [REDACTED] hack gives thieves their own personal key

You may want to think twice before giving the parking attendant your [REDACTED] issued NFC card.

DAN GOODWIN - 6/8/2022, 10:31 PM

Back in 2015, [REDACTED] said the intrusion involved malicious software installed on cash registers at some of its resort restaurants, gift shops and other payment systems that were not part of the its guest reservations or membership systems.

## 'Satori' IoT Botnet Operator Pleads Guilty

September 4, 2019

51 Comments

A 21-year-old man from Van operating the "Satori" botnet was built to conduct massive platforms and Web hosting r

SOCIETY | GERMANY

## [REDACTED] says sabotage behind massive train disruption

10/08/2022

Th [REDACTED] blamed cable sabotage for a major train disruption and said security authorities had taken over the investigation. It had earlier reported that the "technical fault" had been repaired.

# Traditional Security is the Basic Layer at the Edge

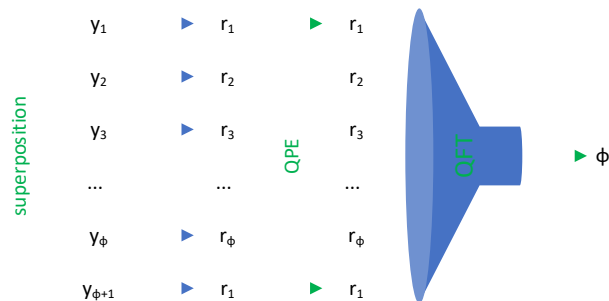
- Securing cryptographic keys
  - ✓ Root of Trust
  - ✓ Secure Element
- Securing firmware and over the air updates
  - ✓ Secure boot
  - ✓ Package / update managers, signed updates
- Securing IDs
  - ✓ Biometrics
  - ✓ Password managers
- Secure development processes
  - ✓ Limit attack surface by fighting feature creep
  - ✓ Vulnerability scanners and vulnerability disclosure routines
  - ✓ Established, high quality code base (libraries)



*We know how to do this!  
“Just” need to deploy it.*

# A Very High-Level View of Shor's Quantum Algorithm

- To break RSA, we need to learn secret primes  $p, q$  from public  $N$  (we know  $N = pq$ )
- From number theory, we know that for suitable  $x$ ,  $r \equiv x^y \bmod N$  is periodic
  - i.e.,  $r \equiv x^y \bmod N \equiv x^{y+\phi} \bmod N \equiv x^{y+2\phi} \bmod N \equiv \dots$
- From number theory, we further know that  $\phi \in \{1, p-1, q-1, (p-1)(q-1)\}$
- Quantum superposition enables (relatively) efficient Quantum Phase Estimation (QPE)
- Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT) allows extracting binary integer  $\phi$  from QPE results

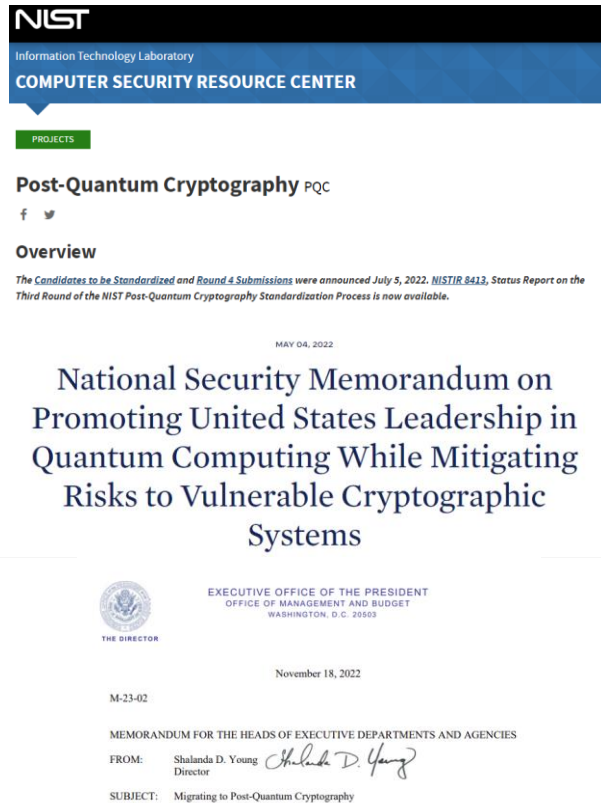


- Small number of repetitions needed until suitable  $x$  found



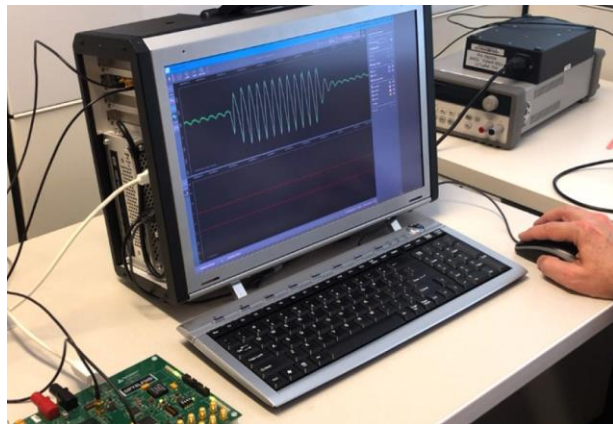
# Updating the Traditional Security: Quantum-Secure Crypto

- Quantum Computers threaten RSA, ECC
  - Digital signature algorithms must change
  - Session key establishment algorithms must change
- Use cases determine when the change must happen
  - Mosca's Theorem: Everything is good as long as  $t_u + t_s < t_q$ 
    - $t_u$ : Time to update devices, networks and applications
    - $t_s$ : Time that data needs to be secure
    - $t_q$ : Time until quantum computers large enough
- Transition to Quantum Secure Crypto is a massive effort
  - All IoT devices / services will be affected
- Governments around the world push to hasten transition
- Standardization in progress but no standards yet
  - Except for secure boot (LMS, XMSS)



# Physical Attacks at the Edge

- Service interruption
  - Disrupting cables, wireless is cheap
  - Need to plan infrastructure with human adversaries in mind
- Side-channel attacks
  - Measure power / EM / time / ... of computation
  - “Look inside” operations, exploit sensitive intermediates
  - More powerful than normal adversaries
- Targeted fault-injection attacks
  - Authentication bypass (e.g., ID and firmware checks)
  - Key extraction (e.g., faulted cryptographic operations)
  - Data dumps (e.g., pointer manipulation)
  - Can even abuse device features like power scaling



## Glitch it if you can: parameter search strategies for successful fault injection

Rafael Boix Carpi<sup>1</sup>, Stjepan Picek<sup>2,3</sup>, Lejla Batina<sup>2</sup>, Federico Menarini<sup>1</sup>,  
Domagoj Jakobovic<sup>3</sup> and Marin Golub<sup>3</sup>

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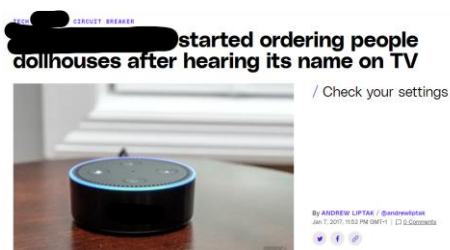
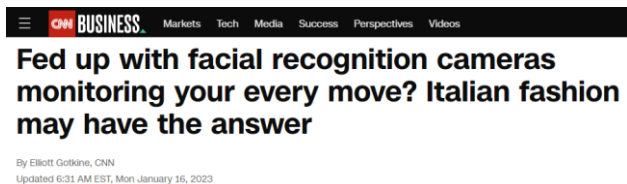
<sup>2</sup> Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands  
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Zagreb, Croatia  
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**Abstract.** Fault analysis poses a serious threat to embedded security devices, especially smart cards. In particular, modeling faults and finding effective practical approaches that are also generic is considered to be of interest for smart card industry. In this work we propose a novel

# Security at the Edge: Attacking AI

- Artificial Intelligence derived from biological models
  - Natural intelligences can be tricked – used for education, psychological healing, marketing, abuse
  - No inherent countermeasures against malicious inputs in AI either

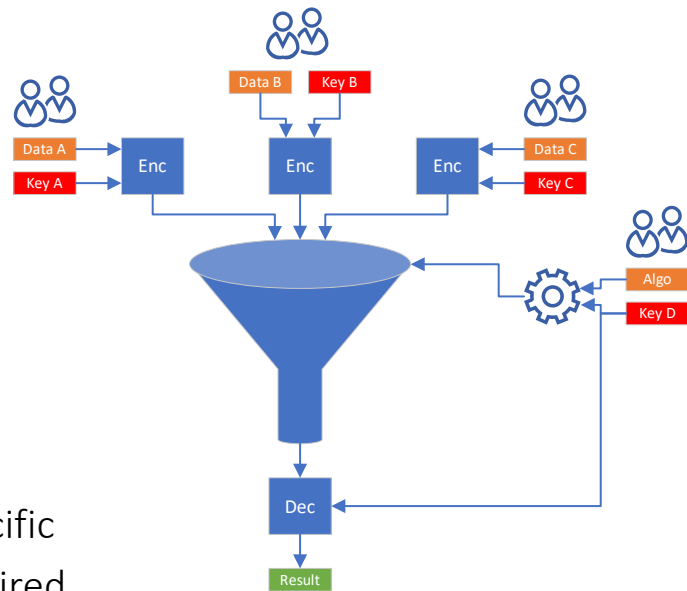


- At edge, additional attacks are possible
  - Proprietary AI models are a form of content that requires protection against pirates
  - Content pirates know how to use side-channel attacks
  - Content pirates know how to use fault-injection attacks
  - AI models increasingly mission critical – denial of service particularly easy at edge

Ongoing research topic

# Security at the Edge: Securing Computations

- At the edge, you find:
  - Proprietary data from multiple sources
  - Proprietary analysis algorithms processing data
  - Vulnerable devices
- Advanced cryptography provides solution:
  - Fully-Homomorphic Encryption (FHE)
  - Multi-Party Computation (MPC)
  - Basic idea: Compute only on encrypted data
  - Basic idea: Use cryptographic means to scramble algorithms
  - Current situation: Practicality of schemes very use-case specific
  - Current situation: Limited useability, expert knowledge required
  - Current situation: First deployments in networking, ad auctions, genome research



# Security at the Edge: Securing Sensors

- For car keys: long history of distance bounding solutions and attacks
  - Relay attacks allow adversaries to unlock cars even if key is far away
  - Distance bounding tries to ensure that key is near car
  - Basic idea: derive distance measurement from response times
  - Current situation: Cat-and-mouse between defenders and adversaries
- Fundamental problem:
  - Cryptography is mathematical, measurements are physical
  - Cryptography derives its strength from reductions to mathematically “hard” problems
  - Measurements for IoT can not be reduced to physical equivalent of “hard” problem
  - Any IoT sensor will can be fooled by sufficiently motivated engineer
  - Faulty sensor inputs will always be a problem for AI in IoT

**Major challenge**

# Summary

- Compute and data are moving into highly interconnected edge devices
- \$ Edge devices are increasingly driving business critical applications
- ✓ We can deploy solid basic security for edge devices
- ! But risks are larger due to edge exposure and basic security is not enough
  - Many challenges are work in progress
  - AI at the edge adds its own challenges
  - Advanced cryptography is providing new opportunities
  - Need to account for risks that cryptography can not solve



Thank you

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